

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

We Claim:

1. (currently amended) ~~A stent having a metallic, at least partially radiolucent self-expanding carrier structure comprising a cut out metal tube at least partially of a titanium nickel alloy, and at least one marker element which includes comparatively radiopaque material, wherein the marker element is attached to the rest of the carrier structure and the radiopaque material is completely enclosed by a cover layer of a material other than the radiopaque material, the cover layer including a~~ A stent as set forth in claim 2, wherein the metal or [[a]] metal compound included in the cover layer includes a ~~including the~~ titanium-nickel alloy.
2. (currently amended) A stent having a metallic, at least partially radiolucent carrier structure comprising a cut out metal tube including legs forming apertures, and having at least one marker element welded in at least one of the apertures, the marker element including a ~~which includes~~ comparatively radiopaque material filling and, ~~wherein the marker element is attached to the rest of the carrier structure and the radiopaque material is completely enclosed by a cover layer of a~~ metal or metal compound including material other than the comparatively radiopaque material forming a hollow wire, ~~the cover layer including a metal or a metal compound, wherein the carrier structure includes legs and apertures for marker elements and wherein the marker elements are welded into said apertures.~~

3. (currently amended) A stent as set forth in claim 2, wherein the ~~stent has~~ carrier structure is a self-expanding carrier structure.
4. (previously presented) A stent as set forth in claim 3, wherein the carrier structure includes a shape memory metal which changes its shape at a change temperature, wherein the stent is of such a design configuration that the stent retains a compressed condition below the change temperature and assumes an expanded condition above the change temperature.
5. (currently amended) A stent as set forth in claim 2 [[1]], wherein the cover layer contains silicon carbide (SiC).
6. (currently amended) A stent as set forth in claim 2 [[1]], wherein the ~~metallic~~ carrier structure is formed from the metal or the metal compound which the cover layer includes and wherein the marker element ~~radiopaque material~~ is attached to the carrier structure at ~~at~~ [[by]] the cover layer.
- 7-8 (cancelled)
9. (currently amended) A stent as set forth in claim 2 [[8]], wherein the marker element is attached to ~~forms at least a part of~~ the carrier structure in a ~~a~~ [[the]] region of a longitudinal end of the stent.
10. (cancelled)

11. (previously presented) A stent as set forth in claim 2, wherein the metal forming the carrier structure is at least partially a titanium nickel alloy.
12. (currently amended) A stent as set forth in claim 2 [[1]], wherein the comparatively radiopaque material contains gold, platinum or palladium.
- 13-19 (cancelled)
20. (currently amended) A method of treating a patient, the method comprising implanting a self-expanding stent into the patient, wherein the stent comprises a metallic, at least partially radio translucent carrier structure comprising a cut out metal tube at least partially of titanium-nickel alloy including legs forming apertures and at least one marker element welded in at least one of the apertures, and wherein the at least one marker element includes comparatively radiopaque material ~~and further wherein the marker element is attached to the rest of the carrier structure and the radiopaque material is completely enclosed by a cover layer of a metal or metal compound material other than the radiopaque material and the cover layer including a metal or a metal compound including~~ the titanium-nickel alloy and forming a hollow wire.